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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Arkhangelsk Oblast) REPORT 25X1

SUBJECT Port Installations and Vessels Sighted in and Near Arkhangelsk DATE DISTR. 14 November 1957

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

Six reports containing fragmentary information on the port of Arkhangelsk have been forwarded 25X1

Att. No.	Subject
1	Construction of a new quay.
2	Sighting of several small tankers; modernization of Sawmill No. 23.
3	Enlargement of a quay.
4	Sighting of an unidentified destroyer and two submarines at Kolskiy Zaliv and 15 "ducks" (DUKW) in Arkhangelsk.
5	Navigational data; description of mine-sweepers in port; port installations; sighting of unidentified submarines and a new destroyer.
6	Unidentified naval and merchant vessels in the shipyard.

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The lighthouse boat, "DVINA", was painted red and there were many men in blue uniforms on it. The boat had a large Greek letter, delta, on it. The boat had a long name, ~~on the~~.

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The ship was at least 50 years old. It had two bowsprits, two masts, a W/T, a smokestack, and many side port holes. It appeared that it operated under its own power.

The lighthouse boat is not always situated at the same place. The light is located on the mast of the prow and it emits a steady white light. The harbor's channel entrance is very narrow and the pilot follows the alignment signs located on land. This is done when entering and leaving. The channel is also dangerous. There are three rhomboid buoys along the length of the channel which the ship heaves behind upon entering. Two of them are on the ship's right and the third is on the ship's left. It is unknown if the buoys are lit at night because the ship entered during the day and left during the day due to the season. The three alignment signs within the main channel along the route which the ship follows are comprised of wooden posts which form a kind of widened net at the peak during the day and they are lit at night. The ship docked at the pier of the Island of KEGOSTROW which is exactly across from the city by the same name. The local people call this pier, pier number 2. This pier can take two ships of 8000 tons for loading and unloading, with ease. It even has room for ^{additional} 3000 ton ship. But, the opposite side of the pier ~~power-~~

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ful current. An officer of the ship measured the depth of the water around it and found [redacted] 25X1
that it varied between 26-31 feet. The depth allows ships to enter and leave which have a draft of 24 feet. Even though the pilots maintain that a ship of 26 feet can do the same. This is probably true when the tide is high. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted]

There were two sheds, open at the sides, which were located 200 meters away from where Informant's ship anchored. One was across from the other and vertically located to the pier. One of the sheds was very new. The sheds contained half processed lumber and small wooden buildings which had been taken apart. There were about 15 minesweepers by anchored by the Island of KEGOSTROW. (At the point on the sketch indicated by the anchor.) All were similar with the exception of two. They were painted. They had a vertical prow similar to that of the warships and the stern was round. The smokestack was unproportionately large for the size of the ship ^{and it} ~~which~~ was located towards the stern side of the bridge. The ships operated by diesel engine. The outside works were very low. The largest was at the prow and the height was that of a person. They had the mast doubled in order to paint the ship. In addition to the mines, they had 4-5 objects which looked like shells. They were located at the prow and the front part faced downwards. The pier did not have any cranes [redacted] 25X1
[redacted]

Five land cranes were observed at a distance at the ELGST location. They were electrically operated and they had a hoisting power of 5 tons. [redacted] 25X1

There were no water installations on the side [redacted]
[redacted]

There was a small shipyard located at the small gulf by MAMAKSA. An iron tug was being built there. They were breaking down old and useless iron vessels at the same location. [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted] No one outside of some of the lower crew members went on liberty to the Club to dance. Liberty was issued at the presentation of the pass and the seaman's passport. The ship was guarded by three pistol armed guards during the entire stay.

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[redacted] about 10 submarines [redacted] They were observed between LUMBOWSKI BAY and the ISLAND OF KILIDIN. In addition six submarines were observed anchored in LUMBOWSKI BAY. Two of the submarines were moored to a freighter which probably belongs to the Soviet Fleet. It was painted a lead color. There should be an observation post and a signal station at the end of LUMBOWSKI because signals were exchanged between the end of the land there and a sailing tug which belonged to the Soviet Fleet.

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[redacted] a new destroyer between KILOV ISLAND and the end of RYBATSCHI H-1. The destroyer was on exercises and it was firing salvos either at a target which was on land or near the shore. After the destroyer had ceased firing, it turned from the Southeastern direction towards Northeast and it threw ^{scum} smoke bombs which would hide the ship from the enemy which would be at a southeasterly direction. The ship was estimated to be going 25 miles per hour.

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At the open sea and at a distance of 10-12 miles, other surface warships (about 10) were observed on maneuvers. They were probably firing at a ^{towed} ~~suggested~~ target

1. HARBOUR.

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At Nr. 2 pitprops sawmill a new quay is under construction north-west of the old one. Length approx. 900ft. A wall of corrugated iron, 3 - 4ft. above the surface of the water, is being laid at the end of the quay and about 6ft. inside this another, apparently similar wall, is erected. The space between these two walls is filled with sand. On the inside of the outer wall a 6ft. high concrete wall is cast over the iron plating. Several lathings could be seen.

The area behind the new quay is quite flat and open.

Approximately 20 - 30 men were working on the quay and the mechanical equipment noted was a compressor-driven rammer, tractors, cranes and a T-shaped crane which was used to unload timber from the barges.

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1. MERCHANT VESSELS.

[redacted] several small tankers at DVINA. Five vessels of the same type were seen, each with slightly different details. They went up to ARCHANGEL in ballast and came down loaded.

Description: Approx. 500 t.d.w., breech loading, red markings on funnels. Approx. speed 12 miles, all had radar scanners and gyro.

2. SAWMILL.

Sawmill Nr. 23 has been completely modernised during the last year. The whole sorting plant is new.

[redacted] the sawmill has new boilers and much new machinery. As well as the usual straddle trucks the sawmill has several fork trucks which are used to transport timber from barges to storage or to those ships to be loaded.

3. QUAY.

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The quay at the sawmill has room for two ordinary timber vessels. There is a ferry berth at the south end of the quay.

1. PIT-PROP SAWMILL. NR. 2

The quay is to be enlarged to about 600m. in length and work is in progress. Iron girders are rammed into the edge of the quay, the inside is filled with sand and the surface is of concrete. Three large concrete buildings stand inside the continuation of the quay. They look like office buildings

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2. PORT EKONOMIYA.

A Russian vessel was loading round timber in Port EKONOMIYA. It was said that the timber was intended for SVALBARD.

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[redacted] a "destroyer" towing a practice target was observed on a northerly course approx. 50 n. miles NE of the entrance to the KOLA INLET. Immediately after the vessel was sighted thick fog descended and further details cannot be given. Gun fire was heard later and about the same time two submarines were seen. They disappeared immediately and no details were observed.

On a quay just below the Naval Dockyard 15 small vessels [redacted] "ducks" were standing. They had a comparatively flat deck and a troughlike bottom. two mudders and two [redacted]

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- [redacted]
1. [redacted] twelve tugs with Kohrt nozzles were on shore at Rybssudostro Shipyard in Arkhangelsk. All tugs were rusty and will presumably not be completed. A semi-dismantled naval vessel, former minesweeper or submarine chaser was on shore. No slipway was observed. An old submarine which, apparently, was also being dismantled, was halfway ashore and halfway in the water, supported by floating pontons.
 2. Several Soviet merchant vessels of older type, were lying at Krassnaya Kunitsa Shipyard, presumably for repair. A large seagoing lighter (not a new construction), was placed on a disorderly looking slip. Several tugs with radar, similar to the DECCA 45 type, which tow the seagoing lighters in the Baltic, were berthed in the shipyard basin or a small bay of the Dvina River. Women with rifles were temporarily keeping the watch at the wooden shipyard gate and at the fences.

[redacted] Comment. It is known that craft are being dismantled at Rybssudostro Shipyard. Three slips are apparently used for dismantling work. Krassnaya Kunitsa Shipyard is able to carry out major repairs since it includes a floating dock for ships up to at least 8,000 G.R.T.

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